

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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YOUTH FROM ATCHISON JUVENILE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY DIES AT CHILDREN'S MERCY HOSPITAL IN KANSAS CITY

A 15-year-old youth who had been transferred from the Atchison Juvenile Correctional Facility (AJCF) to Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City for treatment of a serious medical condition on Sunday, March 4, 2007 died on Monday, March 19, 2007. The young man had been treated briefly by medical staff at AJCF prior to the time the decision was made to transfer him to the hospital.

Staff from AJCF had been assigned to the hospital throughout the time the young man was treated. Members of the youth's family were allowed to visit in accordance with hospital policies and received regular updates on his condition when they were not at the hospital.

The Juvenile Justice Authority has notified the Kansas Bureau of Investigation of the young man's death in accordance with Kansas statute. An autopsy was performed in Topeka this afternoon, March 20, 2007.

This is the first time since 2002 that a youth placed in a juvenile correctional facility in Kansas has died.